

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/083,326

Examiner

Duyen M. Doan

Applicant(s)

O'TOOLE ET AL.

Art Unit

2152

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/27/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,4-14 and 17-29.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


BUNJOB JARDENCHONWANIT
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

Claims 1, 4-14, 17-29 are allowed.

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. David Rouille at phone number (508) 616-9660.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1:

In a location requesting device, a method for obtaining location information related to a target device, the method comprising the steps of:

Transmitting a location request message onto a network towards the target device, the location request message requesting location information in relation to the target device, wherein the location request contains a specification of location information parameters that identify different types of location information requested by the location request message, each different type of location information corresponding to location information that can be provided from a different location information service, wherein the location request message contains a target device identifier and contains a

Art Unit: 2152

time to return identifier, and wherein the step of transmitting the location request message comprises step of: configuring the specification of the location information parameters in the location request message to include a specification of the location information parameter for each type of location information that is to be returned in [the] a location signature message from a corresponding location information service.

Specially, the limitation calculating a value for the time to return identifier based upon a propagation distance between the location requesting device and the target device, the value from the time to return identifier indicating a metric that determines how close the location request message is propagated in the network toward the target device before a node in the network that receives the location request message cancels further propagation of the location request message and produces a location signature message that is returned to the location requesting device; and forwarding the location request message onto the network towards the target device specified by the target device identifier; receiving a location signature message, the location signature message containing location information associated with a plurality of different location information services, each location information service providing location information having a different location granularity in relation to the target device; and processing the location information for at least one of the location information services in the location signature message to device a location of the target device in relation to at least one desired location granularity.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record single or in combination failed to teach the combination of the invention as claimed in independent claims 1 and 14.

For example the prior art of record failed to teach the location request message contain a target device identifier and contains a time to return identifier and wherein the step of transmitting the location request message comprises step of: configuring the specification of the location information parameters in the location request message to include a specification of the location information parameter for each type of location information that is be returned in a location signature message from a corresponding location information service.

Specially, the limitation calculating a value for the time to return identifier based upon a propagation distance between the location requesting device and the target device, the value from the time to return identifier indicating a metric that determines how close the location request message is propagated in the network toward the target device before a node in the network that receives the location request message cancels further propagation of the location request message and produces a location signature message that is returned to the location requesting device. The features mentioned above are clearly support by the specification (pages 16-24, figure 1). The above features in light of other features of the independent claims 1 and 14 enable claims' allowable.

Art Unit: 2152

The dependent claims further limit the independent claims and are considered allowable on the same basis as the independent claims as well as for the further limitation set forth.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

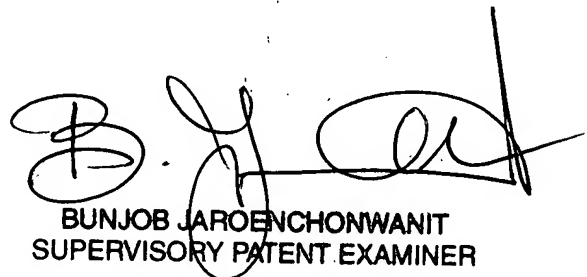
Art Unit: 2143

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Duyen M. Doan whose telephone number is (571) 272-4226. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob A. Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on (571) 272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Examiner
Duyen Doan
Art unit 2152



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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER